Policemen and Firemen-1928. D.C.

DETECTIVE SERGEANT J. T. JACKSON RETIRES WITH ENVIABLE RECORD

Tribune, Washington, D.C. 2-17-28

Detective Sergeant J. T. (Tom) Jackson, for the past 30 years one of the most capable detectives attached to the police force, worked his last day as a member of the headquarters squad Wednesday. Turning in his badge and revolver, Mr. Jackson, went on a 14-day leave with pay at the conclusion of which he is to be retired.

Mr. Jackson, who is now sixty years old and who is being retired at his own request, holds the distinction of having arrested more murderers than any other man in the police department. More than 100 men and women have been captured by Mr. Jackson on homicide charges in this city and other jurisdictions. This record has never been approached by any other policeman in this city.

Promoted to Detective

As a uniformed man in the fourth precinct more than a score of years ago, Mr. Jackson made such an enviable record that he could not be denied recognition as a "stong-arm" of the first water. He was promoted to the position of plain-clothes man and later sent to the central office as a detective sergeant.

Mr. Jackson is one of the five colored men who have served as detective sergeants at headquarters. The first was Henry Lacy. He was followed by Harry Beckley, Paul W. Jones, J. W. Jones and Mr. Jackson. Mr. Lacy died in 1913. The Jones brothers went over seas during the World War and when they returned, Paul Jones resumed his sleuthing duties while his brother entered service in the Department of Justice. Mr. Beckley resigned about six years ago.

Mr. Jackson has ben felled twice by bullets while he was doing duty. He lives at 822 T street, northwest.

Precinct Detective H. W. Smith, attached to number 8 precinct, has been promoted to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Jackson's retirement.

H. W. SMITH MADE HEADQUARTERS DETECTIVE SERG.

2-17-28 Washington Bureau 2-24-28

It was officially announced, last week that H. W. Smith, plain-clothes man attached to the eighth police precinct, had been chosen as the man to succeed J. T. (Tom) Jackson as Detective Sergeant at the central bureau. The announcement came from Commissioner Needham C. Turnage following

H. W. SMITH, police detective who has been promoted as detective sergeant at central bureau.

recommendation from the major and Superintendent of Police.

Mr. Smith, who will assume the duties as a headquarters man beginning March 1, will be the seventh Negro to hold this position. An article in last week's Tribune named Henry Lacy, Harry Beckley, Paul W. Jones, J. W. Jones, and J. T. Jackson, but omitted Robert J. Carroll. Mr. Carroll was appointed a Detective Sergeant at the same time Mr. Beckley received his promotion. This brings the total to six rather than five colored Detective Sergeants as was stated last week.

Mr. Smith was taken on the Metropolitan force as a patrol driver in 1903. During that year he served as extra wagon man at several precincts. In 1904, Mr. Smith was stationed at number eight precinct where he has seen service ever since.

Policeman 17 Years

From wagon duty Mr. Smith was promoted in 1906 to the position of uniformed policeman, and during the 17 years from 1906 to 1923 he patrolled one beat. Covering the territory from Sixteenth to Twenty-second and Q to T Streets, Mr. Smith's beat comprised the most popular residential section in the city.

Graduating in 1923 from uniformed ranks, Mr. Smith was made plain-clothes man, detailed to enforce the National Prohibition Act. Later he was made Internal Revenue Agent. In 1926 Mr. Smith was promoted to precinct detective, in which capacity he completes his service in the eighth precinct.

Mr. Smith, during his term as a precinct man, has aided in the apprehension and conviction of many criminals.

Mr. Smith lives at 902 French street, northwest, with his wife and one daughter, a student at Howard University.

Lieut. Wesley Williams, Only Negro Officer In New York Fire Fighting Forces, Wins Praise For Bravery

Leads His Men of No. 55 Company In Heroic Battle Against Flames and Smoke In Fire Which Ravished Broadway Building

Lieut. Wesley Williams, of No. 55 Engine Company, the only Negro officer in the New York Fire Department won high praise for his work and that of the men under him at a fire in the five-story loft building at 472 Broadway, near Grand street, early Saturday morning, March 31.

Twice during the hot, smoky ordeal while they were working at the bottom of the stairs in the basement, they were almost all "out" when ordered to the street to recover. Both times the commander and men of No. 55 had refused to leave the post to which they had been assigned until Deputy Chief Helm ordered them out.

The fire started between the tile floor of a restaurant on the first floor and the ceiling of the basement. Some of the firemen said it was one of the smokiest blazes they had had in a dozen years. For three hours they had to cut holes in tiling and tear away ancient timbers to get to the flames. So many of them suffered from smoke, the Rescue Company under Capt. Walter Lamb was called to aid them.

The fire did not get above the first floor. The floors above are occupied by lofts and factories.

Some water got into the basement at 470, but did not damage.

Trolley operation on Broadway and Grand Street was reduced to a shuttle service for two hours.

Lieut. Williams formerly was a fireman in the company he now commands.

PROVES FIRE HERO

Lt. WESLEY WILLIAMS
Shows his mettle in lower Broadway fire.

Policemen and Firemen-1928

D.C.

DETECTIVE SERGT. SMITH PRAISED BY CAPTAIN

Captain C. H. Bremmerman, white, of the fourth police precinct pays quite a tribute to Howard W. Smith, now detective sergeant at the central bureau, having been promoted March 1 from precinct detective attached to Number 8.

In talking to a Tribune reporter, Captain Bremmerman said, "I was more than glad to learn of the selection of Howard Smith to succeed retired Detective Sergeant Jackson. I consider Mr. Smith a fully capable man, honest and aboveboard, truthful, and above all, an excellent policeman."

The statement on the part of Captain Bremmerman was voluntary.

Policemen and Firemen - 1928

Georgia.

ENTERPRISE

Thomasville, Ga

SEP 4 1928

SAVANNAH MAY EMPLOY NEGRO POLICEMAN TO DEAL WITH NEGRO DISTRICTS

Savannah, Ga., Aug. 4 (AP)—Suggestion that negro policemen be employed by the city of Savannah for duty in the rural districts was made in a letter received here by Mayor Thomas N. Hoynes from Dr. F. Muir Turner, who is spending the summer in North Carolina.

In his letter, Dr. Turner expressed the belief that negro policemen would be acquainted with the members of their race, and would be able to cope with all problems that arise. He explained that Knoxville, St. Louis, Kansas City, Mo., and other cities employ negro policemen for the negro districts.

Mayor Hoynes has taken the suggestion under consideration. It is understood that no steps will be taken at this time toward adoption of the proposal.

TRIBUNE

Cartersville, Ga

AUG 30 1928

Negro Policemen for Savannah Suggested

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Policemen and Firemen – 1928

John Scott Made Lieutenant of Police

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 3.—(By A. N. P.)—Colored Chicago felt that it shared the honor with Police Sergeant John F. Scott last Friday when it was announced that Commissioner of Police Hughes had appointed Sergeant Scott a lieutenant of police, one of three officers, the other two being white, who received similar commissions as a Christmas present.

Lieut. Scott has been in Chicago 25 years, having come here from Houston, Texas. Before entering the police department 21 years ago, he was in the haberdashery business with Sandy Trice for two years at 2918 S. State street.

For twelve years he was a patrolman, but eight years ago he was appointed a sergeant under Chief Garrity. The examination for lieutenant was taken four years ago, during the Dever administration.

His record as a police officer has been studded with examples of meritorious service. Lieut. Scott himself looks back with pride to his handling of the mysterious Lee Bo Chinese murder case. The Chinaman was murdered in his restaurant at Thirty-first and Dearborn streets, and the only clue left to the murder was two cups and saucers found on a table. Starting with these, Lieut. Scott traced guilt to Earl Simpson, who is now serving a life sentence for the crime. Lieut. Scott has received 17 creditable mentions, and has several times been specially commended. His service during the race riot earned the praise of Mayor Thompson. His partners in police service have been Lieut. Wm. A. Middleton and David "Big Six" Smith.

Lieut. Scott is married and has one child. He is a member of Fort Dearborn Lodge of Elks and chairman of its charity committe. He is also a trustee of St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic church. Fort Dearborn members have volunteered to purchase Lieut. Scott's new uniform.

The appointment of Lieut. Scott raises to six the number of colored police lieutenants in the larger cities. There are three in Los Angeles, Lt. Harry Buford in Omaha, Nebr., and two in Chicago.

AID IN CAPTURING SLAYER OF LITTLE GIRL IN MICHIGAN

It was through the direct efforts of three men that Adolph Hoetelling, murderer of little 7-year-old Dorothy [illegible] of Flint, Mich., was arrested in Owosso, Mich. They are, left to right: Henry Munger, Davison; Mark Pailhorpe, Mt. Morris, and Thomas Kelly, Flint. Each of these men a deputy sheriff from his county, persisted in running down clues until they struck the one that led to the capture of Hoetelling, and the trio obtained from him the confession that led to his indictment. When a mob formed in front of the county jail at Flint and demanded that the prisoner be turned over to it, Kelly, Munger and Pailhorpe planned Hoetelling's transfer to Ionia, where he was kept for safety. All involved in the case are white except Kelly, who has been highly praised for his part in the capture.

—P. & A. Photo.

Policemen and Firemen—1928

Illinois.

Fire Praised 11/1/28

CHICAGO, Ill., July 5.—Praise for the efficient manner in which Sheridan A. Bruseaux, chief investigator for the special grand jury in the search for the murderers of Octavius C. Granady, obtained evidence on which the jury has voted 45 indictments, was given last night by Chief Justice William V. Brothers, Attorney General Oscar E. Carlstrom, and Frank J. Loesch, chief special prosecutor.

Mr. Bruseaux is widely known as an investigator. Of the 125 witnesses who testified before the grand jury in the last three weeks, a large majority were found through the efforts of Mr. Bruseaux and his staff.

The investigator, who formed the first national colored detective agency, has been retained in many notable cases. He was chief investigator for Mrs. W. E. D. Stokes in her legal battles with her millionaire husband. He made a survey of the affairs of Wilberforce university at Xenia, O. He was retained by Mayor Floyd Williams of Gary in the recent race difficulties in Gary schools, and was retained by Armour & Co. to expose a woman's false claims for accident damages.

THE CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

THE pride of Chicago is its Fire Department. Since the Volunteer Fire Department prior to and up through the great fire of 1871 when the city was practically destroyed, down through all the years of the organized paid department now at its highest efficiency, all Chicago has relied upon, cherished, respected, praised and honored its fire fighters.

Constantly has the quality of its personel and the class of its equipment been improved until it now is second to none in comparison with bodies of its kind in the world.

With unswerving fidelity to duty at all times, often hampered and handicapped by the lack of co-operation of some city administrations in giving its unstinted financial and moral support its splendid record of service merits, it has always had the kindly interest and co-operation of the citizens in general, high or low, rich or poor, because of its honesty, faithfulness, bravery and dependence.

The Chicago Fire Department, in a drive for funds to perpetuate the inter-department relief ogranization, is staging a series of base ball games between the teams of the Detroit and Chicago Fire Departments to be played on September 12-13 and 14. They are asking the support of the public in this instance to help in this drive for funds to aid those disabled in line of duty and their dependents. This is a most worthy charity and should be kept in mind and liberally supported by all classes of citizens who are given this opportunity to give practical evidence of their loyalty and appreciation of our own brave fire fighters.

OUR CITY FIREMEN

FOR many years the Chicago Fire Department has included a company of colored fire-fighters that have reflected credit upon themselves, the department and the community they have so faithfully served. The high merit of this company has won, its efficiency, its splendid personnel, its long years of service has no doubt commended itself to the department, the many city administrations under which it has served and the community in general. As a group we take special pride in our fire-fighters and feel that their loyalty, our own and the public's interest and appreciation of them and their services should take some form of a tangible award. This could be demonstrated in no better way than for the chief of the Chicago Fire Department, the fire commissioner and the aldermanic committee of that branch of the city service to not only recommend but establish an additional unity of colored fire-fighters to the Chicago Fire Department.

Those of our public spirited citizens and civic organizations who are actually interested in the progress of the race will do well to organize and agitate to this end. The men are available and there is no doubt but that our citizens will hail with delight this opportunity for additional members of our group to serve their city in this honored though happy ardous field. It's time for another colored unit. If we are a unit for it, it will be brought about.

BACK AT DESK

SGT. LILBURNE JACKSON

Having fully recovered from injuries sustained in an auto accident, Sgt. Lilburne Jackson, veteran of the Chicago police force, is back on night desk duty at the Stanton Ave. station, 35th St. and Rhodes Ave. Sgt. Jackson was run down by a motorist while en route to Camp Grant for entrainment with the Eighth Illinois regiment, of which he is a major.

Policemen and Firemen- 1928

COFFEYVILLE HERO SHOT IN BACK BY THUG

White Daily Papers Color Story With Falsehoods—Will Recover

COFFEYVILLE, Kas., Jan. 26.—Robert Liggins, the hero of the Coffeyville race riot in March 1927, was shot last night at 9:15 o'clock. He was struck in the left side of the face and chest. Mr. Liggins is a merchant policeman, working under the sheriff's commission since friction in Coffeyville between city and county authorities caused the city commissioners to mak merchant policemen subject to approval of the police chief.

Robert Liggins

The assailant is not known, but is believed to be a bootlegger, because the sheriff's forces have been making liquor raids. Mr. Liggins is at home, doing well with such injuries, and is expected to get well. He was shot with a shot gun.

Implies a Falsehood

The daily paper story of the shooting is typical of the misrepresentation Negroes undergo in white newspapers. The story as sent out of Coffeyville is the work of some writer there, whose matter is distributed by the Associated Press. In its first paragraph he says:

". . . . In the riot here March 18, when citizens attempted to storm the city jail to get a Negro held in connection with an alleged attack on two girls, Liggins, who was a merchant policeman, fired a shot intending to disperse the mob, and the rioting started."

Further in the story he writes:

"Recently the sheriff's deputies have been making liquor raids in Coffeyville, and Liggins was suspected of being the tipster."

Whites, Not Negroes, Charged With Rape

In spite of a motive he himself furnishes this Coffeyville correspondent of the Associated Press connects this shooting with the incidents of last March, leaving the impression that a Negro was implicated in the attack on two girls. It is true a Negro was arrested, charged with the crime, and also true that a mob tried to get at him. But since that charge and arrest, the whole conspiracy in Coffeyville has had an airing in the courts and it has been shown conclusively that the girls were in the hands of white men. The state has tried the white men for rape, and even suspicion has been removed from Negroes.

Liggins Never Fired a Shot

The statement about Liggins firing a shot is wholly untrue. The facts about the riot are clear, and no Coffeyville correspondent got them wrong except by deliberate intent, or carelessness amounting to the same thing. When the mob had stoned the city hall a while, and had gotten its temper up to the destructive mood, it set out to burn and kill in the Negro neighborhood. Liggins, at that time an officer, was the only man of all the authorities in Coffeyville, game eonugh to face the crowd. Sixty men started south on Union street from Seventh toward Eighth street but halted when they reached a point just beyond the corner. There stood Liggins, ready to go into action. His past, his pose and his possibilities sobered the sixty at once, and the mob spirit oozed out of their cowardly souls. There was no mob ten minutes after he took his stand, hours before the arrival of the soldiers.

Truth About the Riot

The Associated Press leaves an entirely different impression of the Coffeyville race riot. The truth is Negroes were heroes in Coffeyville, and it was white men who faced the juries charged with rape. It was this Negro who made peace, when a white mob set out to destroy it.

ROBERT LIGGINS, COFFEYVILLE HERO, DIES OF BULLET WOUNDS

Deputy Sheriff, Who Was Shot From Ambush, Sinks After Rallying; Dives Cleaned Out as Result

COFFEYVILLE, Kas.—Robert Liggins, former police officer and merchant policeman, who was shot from ambush early the night of January 25, succumbed to his wounds at 5:20 o'clock Friday afternoon.

The wounded officer's life had been despaired the first few hours after the shooting, but for a few days he had shown improvement and there was strong belief on the part of relatives and attending physicians that he would recover.

County authorities were advised of the change in Liggins' condition and County Attorney Mitchell and Sheriff McCrabb came to Coffeyville early Friday afternoon and called at the Liggins home with a view of procuring a final statement from the wounded man.

The two attending physicians from Parsons, told the officers that at no time during Thursday or Friday did Liggins lose consciousness. Mrs. Liggins and Ed Liggins of Little Rock, Ark., brother of the wounded officer were at the bedside when the end came.

Liggins was 54 years old and had lived in Coffeyville for twenty-seven years, coming here from Argenta, Ark. where he had done his first police work.

His first work in Coffeyville was that of following the threshing machine in the fall as a stacker. It was said Bob drew the wages of two men at this line and followed the machine every fall for seven years.

Made Policeman in 1905

In 1905 Nate Smith, then chief of police, gave Bob his first police job on the Coffeyville force. He remained on the job for about six months. Later he returned to the police department and held a commission under two other administrations.

About twelve years ago he worked up his first beat as a night merchant policeman, or watchman as he was then called, and with the exception of a brief interval had continued in this line of work to the night he was shot, though sacrificing the larger portion of his customers last spring when the post of merchant policeman was created in connection with the police department.

Wife Survives Him

Liggins is survived by his wife, Lillie A. Liggins and two brothers, Anderson and Ed Liggins of Little Rock, Ark. One brother, Ed Liggins resided in Coffeyville until his death in Bell Memorial hospital three years ago.

A new information charging first degree murder will now be issued against Dixon, it was stated here last night and an increase in the bond of $20,000 fixed at his arraignment in Justice Jukes' court, to probably $25,000 will be asked.

Returns Fugitive

OFFICER DOUGHERTY

Credit for bringing back "Sweet" Johnson, alleged slayer, from Oklahoma, belongs to Officer Wesley Dougherty, who followed up a clue and returned the woman to Kansas

Policemen and Firemen-1928.

Kentucky.

Patrolman Brown Kills Hudson

Crime Held Unjustifiable By Coroner's Jury

For nearly forty years the good citizens of Louisville of the colored race have been clamoring for recognition in the police department and the fire department of this city. For twelve years the Republican party has had control in Louisville. Various organizations have sent committees to wait on the "Boss" and they were always "shooed" off with the statement that it was against the Constitution, or against the decision of the Court of Appeals or against city ordinances. All of which was absolutely false.

When Wm. B. Harrison was elected Mayor last November, he at once organized schools for policemen, and admitted colored cadets. Many were the applicants anr they were carefully selected with reference to their past records. No one stood higher than R. C. Brown. He was considered a model officer. A few days ago the whole city was shocked with the news that Brown had filled his system with "bad moon" and gone on the war path.

The evidence showed that Brown, with two women, visited the home of Ellis Hudson os South Second St., in a quarrelsome mood. Ella May Malone was one of the women who accompanied Brown to Hudson's "good-time house." It seems that Ella May was trying to convince Brown that she was not intimate with Hudson. They all began quarreling and Hudson, knowing Ella May and her female companion, exclaimed, "What are you strumpets raising so much noise in my house for?" Then Ella May turned to Brown and asked, "Did you hear what he called us?" Brown, whose ear seems to have been dulled by the humming of the licker, inquired, "What did he say?"She replied, "He called us—— Whereupon Brown ripped out his gun and Hudson held his hands aloft to indicate his defenseless state, Brown fired point blank at his head—the ball striking him in the left jaw, ranging up and penetrating the brain. Hudson died immediately.

Brown surrendered and at once tendered his resignation to the Board of Safety. There was a great wave of indignation throughout the city over the killing, and Brown was charged with murder and committed without bail. The colored people feel that this act gives the enemies of the race a chance to say that colored men cannot be charged with public duty. The colored police officers were the pride of the race, and this act is most deeply deplored by all good citizens.

Policemen and Firemen- 1928.

FIVE COLORED COPS NAMED

The following well known men are students at the Police School and it is presumed if they pass, they will be appointed uniformed patrolmen: Robert C. Brown, 330 E. Liberty; Wm. F. Downs, 1016 S. Hancock; John Hayden (Fashion Plate' 122 W. Walnut; Wm. Scott, 1132 W. Chestnut; and J. E. Sheppard, 1705 W. Chestnut street.

FRANK CALBERT—DEPUTY SHERIFF

Mr. Frank Calbert has the distinction of being the first member of the race to serve or be appointed a deputy sheriff in Jefferson County. Mr. Calbert is one of six new deputies appointed by Sheriff Aubrey Cossar and sworn in last last Friday morning. Though a young man, Mr. Calbert has always bee nactive in politics and has served the party in many and varied ways.

HERALD-POST
LOUISVILLE, KY.
JAN 10 1928

Six Uniformed Negro Police To Join Black Belt Force

Louisville is soon to have six uniformed Negro police for patrol duty in the Black Belt, in addition to the three plainclothes Negro detectives and the Negro policewoman now on the force.

Sessions of the Louisville Police School will be resumed under Prof. George T. Ragsdale Saturday morning, Col. Roy E. Easley, chief, announced Tuesday, for training a class of thirty-six new patrolmen, six of whom will be Negroes.

The class is being selected this week from a list of 675 applicants. Those accepted for duty are subjected to a rigid physical examination at the hands of the city health officer. The class will include thirty white men and six Negroes, the latter to be assigned by Col. Easley to patrol duty in the Negro district.

Students for the school have been selected with the greatest care, Col. Easley announced, both as to their mental and moral fitness for patrolmen.

Before accepting any applicant for patrolman, Colonel Easley said, he had some one from his department look up their records, both in the police department and also at the federal building, to make sure that no one appointed has a police record. The men being examined, he said, are of the highest type and some of them high school and college gradutes. This is true of the colored men, the chief explained, saying that the six men selected for uniformed patrolmen in the colored district are among the better class of their race.

The police school was abandoned when the Democrats took office last June, and during the five months and more the Democrats were in office men were accepted for places on the police force without any training or any previous experience.

Since the Republicans came back into power in November only men with experience have been appointed. Now that new material must be secured, the Board of Safety restored the police school for training the men.

Under orders from Mayor Harrison the Board of Safety plans to add approximately fifty men to the police force this year, which will bring the department up to almost its full quota. Many of these men will be needed to aid in enforcing the new traffic ordinance soon to be passed by the General Council.

Negroes now on the force include Albert Hathaway, who was sworn in Monday and assigned as chauffeur for Mayor Harrison; Page Hemphill and W. D. Woods, detectives, and Mrs. Fannie Givens, policewoman.

Colored Uniformed Men Will Arrest Any Lawbraker

Will Draw No Color Line

Colored policemen, if any, will arrest all lawbreakers and disturbers of the peace regardless of race, color, creed or previous condition of servitude.

The Board of Safety is the authority for that statement as shown by communications following.

Perhaps no other assertion has caused so much comment, ridicule and laughter as that in the daily papers quoting Prof. Ragsdale, teacher of the Police School as saying Colored policemen, if appointed, would not be allowed to arrest white persons.

The News and other race papers had to answer scores of telephone calls as to what they thought about such an absurd rule. Everywhere in barbershops, soft drink stands, drugstores, the question was discussed.

Hypothetical questions were put: "Suppose'n" a white man tried to rob the First Standard or the American Mutual Savings Bank, couldn't Colored policemen arrest them? "Suppose'n" white men, full of white mule, ran amuck in the Negro districts, would a Colored cop have to run and get a real cop to arrest them? The News advised persons who questioned it to keep cool, that if Colored policemen were appointed they would arrest ANYBODY who "broke the law." But although many persons laughed at the silly possibilities of the thing others took it very seriously.

The Associated Negro Press solemnly shot the news all over the country, and even the Louisville Times took it to heart and protested with the following editorial:

UNWISE LIMITATION

"No reasonable objection giving five or six Negroes places on the police force can be raised in Louisville, ut since Negroes are to be appointed, serious objection must be raised o the reported intention to instruct the appointees to arrest no white persons.

A policeman, white or black, is a policeman just as a lawbreaker, white or black, is a lawbreaker.

To put a man in police uniform nd then tell him that he must draw he color line in exercisig the authority vested in him as a policeman is unwise and unfair.

Further it is a weak and unwise concession to race prejudice out of line with the evident determination to give the Negro recognition for the part played in local politics.

Probably Negro leaders here will be glad to receive the recognition. But they could not be censured for resenting a limitation that would invite criminality by white hoodlums in the Negro district in which the Negro policemen are to walk beats."

Finally The News Wrote the following letter to Mr. Arthur Will, ex-mayor and Chairman of the Board of Public Safety, and Col. Easley, Chief of Police. The reply ought to convince the most skeptical that if Colored policemen are appointed they will draw no color line in their arrests of lawbreakers. That much is assured. Now wait and see if the men now attending the Police Schoolpass and graduate. They might FAIL, because it takes some wise cop to spell "idiosyncrasy," for instance, or to take the square root of 654321. After they appear on the streets swinging their clubs will be time enough to worry about whom they can or will arrest. The letters:

January 17, 1928

Mr. Arthur Will,
Board of Public Safety,
Louisville, Ky.,
Dear Mr. Will:

As a matter of news I am writing to ask you, is it true, as stated by the daily papers, that if Colored men are made uniformed policemen, they will not be allowed to arrest white violators of the law?

That statement in the daily papers

has caused much comment among Colored people. As a Colored newspaper we would like to be able to say the assertion is not true—if it isn't.

This paper wants to be fair with the administration and support it when it is right. That is the only reason for this letter.

Very truly,
WILLIAM WARLEY,
Editor

January 18, 1928
Louisville News Printing Co.,
1003 W. Chestnut St.
Louisville, Ky.
Gentlemen:

Replying to your letter of January 17th, 1928, addressed to Col. Roy Easley, Chief of Police, beg to state that copy of letter written yesterday to the Courier-Journal and Times is herewith attached, which explains this proposition thoroughly.

Yours truly,
BRENT G. NUNNELLEY,
Secretary

January 17, 1928
Editor Loiusville Times,
Third and Liberty Streets,
Louisville, Ky.,
Dear Sir:

In the last few days there have appeared in your columns, editorial comments and letters referring to some alleged order of the Board of Public Safety that the newly appointed Negro policemen are not to arrest white law violators. The Board of Safety gave no such order and, of course, will give no such order.

Negro policemen when appointed will, of course, be required to perform their duties in the same manner as the white policemen and to make arrests under like circumstances as white policemen.

The only possible basis for the report to the contrary effect that we can imagine exists is that the Negro policemen will be assigned for duty in the sections that are chiefly populated by Colored citizens. It is probable, therefore, that the majority of arrests they will make will be of Colored people, but their authority will be no wise thus limited.

Yours truly,
BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Member

Copies to Mr. Frank R. Willis, Editor, Courier-Journal.

NEGRO APPOINTED DEPUTY SHERIFF IN LOUISVILLI

Louisville, Ky.—(ANP)—For th first time in the history of Louisville, a Negro has been appointed deputy sheriff in the person of Frank Calbert, who was sworn in by Judge Fox Tuesday. Mr. Calbert is well-known in the city. The Republican administration is making good its race.

LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY GETS 6 NEW OFFICERS ON THEIR POLICE FORCE

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 29—A long-dreamed of attainment by colored citizens was realized Saturday when six of its colored citizens, after six weeks intensive training under Physical Director Sedgwick of the Y. M. C. A. entered upon their duties as police officers. The members beginning work on the police force on this day were: W. M. Scott, J. E. Shepard, W. F. Downs, R. C. Brown J. W. Brown and John Hayden.

These men were carefully selected, it is said, from among the best citizens of Louisville, inasmuch as citizens were determined that the first quota of colored officers must be efficient.

It will be remembered a few weeks ago, a storm of protest arose when it was suggested that these men be empowered to arrest colored offenders only. So violent was public disapproval that the restriction was withdrawn and the six new policemen were clothed with full power.

Louisville's First Negro Police Walking Beats

Associated Negro Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 29.—At last what seemed heretofore impossible has happened; Louisville's first six Negro police have been sworn in and are on duty. Two hours after the first squad went out an arrest was recorded at headquarters. These men made very high records in the Police Schools.

Great credit is due C. W. Sedwick of the Y. M. C. A. for the part he played in giving these men their physical training. We have it from a good source that twelve more Negro officers will be appointed as soon as they receive their training in the Police School.

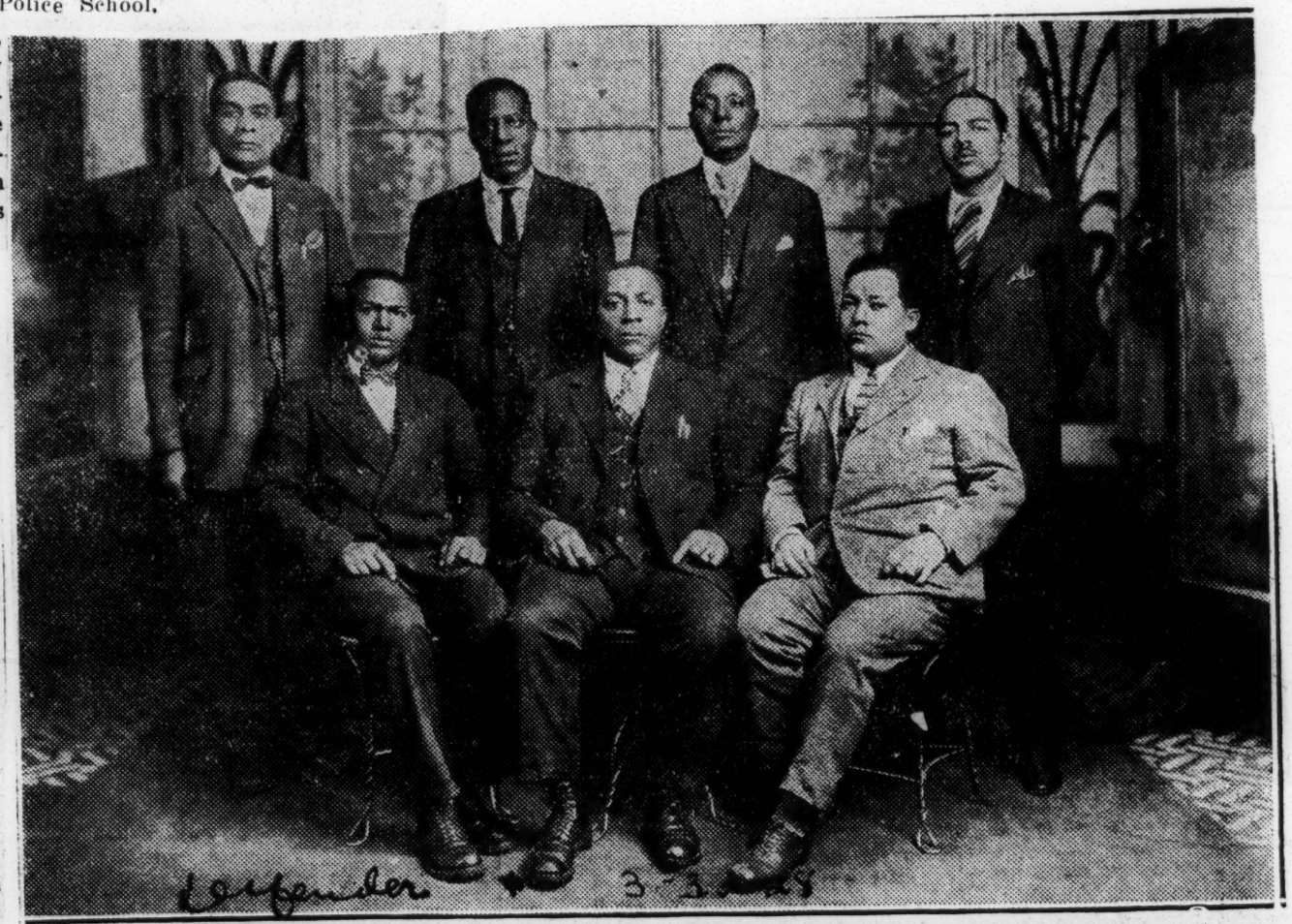
Louisville to Have Second Police School

LOUISVILLE, Ky., June 21.—For the second time within a year, Louisville will open a police school in which members of our race will be trained for the police force, the present officers having made good which guarantees the appointment of at least six more.

MURPHY COMPLAINS

James Murhphy, ex-policeman, has complained to the Mayor that he is being persecuted by Republican policemen. Our genial and dapper Mayor has assured Mr. Murphy that he will do all in his power to afford him protection.

We thank the Mayor for that comfort. It is a shame for any policeman to seek to intimidate any citizen, however humble on account of his political opinions. This matter grips the honor of the whole community.



THEY FIGHT CRIME IN LOUISVILLE—Here is the first detachment of police of our Race in Louisville, Ky. Their duty is to fight crime, and they have instructions to arrest any criminal, no matter what h[illegible]olor—all criminals look alike to them!

Policemen and Firemen—1928

Maryland.

Philly Has No Kick, Why Do We?

All of the characteristics of a fire fighter, courage, bravery and loyalty, are inculcated in these members of Engine Company Eleven and Philadelphia has no fault to find. They are (seated) Nathaniel Davis, Augustus Wood, Thomas Seldom, James Beatie, Eugene Green. (standing) Duleka Grinage, Peter Graham, Joseph Marshall, Harry D. Smith and James Jenkins.

Policemen and Firemen-1928

Missouri.

SAYS NEGRO POLICE ARE INEFFICIENT

Dr. E. B. Clements, Mo. Republican National Committeeman, Takes "Fling" at Negroes Generally, but Mentions Negro Police

STATEMENT REGARDED AS ATTITUDE OF STATE G.O.P.

A deal of light has been thrown on the status of the Negroes in the eyes of the Republicans of this State by a letter Dr. E. B. Clements wrote Attorney John A. Davis.

This letter was a reply to one written Dr. Clements by Mr. Davis in which the attorney complained of the treatment of the Negroes of the State by the G. O. P. citing among others things, the local police situation under the present police board.

In his reply, the Republican National Committeeman, cites a few minor positions which the Negroes have in the State, and also those held by Negro men in Washington, and closes his letter by taking a "fling" at the Negroes as policemen saying: "As policeman, they have not given efficient service." This statement by the head of the Republican Party of the State is regarded as reflecting the party's attitude towards the Negro of the State.

LETTER

Dear Mr. Davis:

Replying to yours of recent date, Washington has hundreds of Negro clerks. Negroes are employed in the City Hall in St. Louis and the Court House, employed by the Mayor, and there are also a number of policemen on the payroll. I think if you investigate you will find they are getting a fair proportion compared to their numbers, particularly in Washington. As policemen they have not given efficient service.

With personal regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,
Ed. B. Clements
National Commiteeman

Member Of Legislature Is Alarmed At Unrest Among Negro Voters Of The State

Following the appearance in this paper last week of an account of an address of Attorney Joseph L. McLemore before the Democratic Committee, in which he urged that body to make a bid for the Negro vote, has written a letter to Dr. E. B. Clements, Republican National Committeeman of the State, and pointed out some of the reasons why such young men as Mr. McLemore and his followers are turning from the G. O. P.

Mr. Davis stated that he had sent copies of his letter to all the leading Republicans of the State, as well as to National Committeeman Butler and Congressman L. C. Dyer.

LETTER

My dear Sir:

"The writer has viewed with considerable alarm the rapid changes that are being made in the politics of the Negro Electorate in this State. During the past three years many Democratic and Independent organizations have been formed for the purpose of alienating the Negro vote from the Republican party. These organizations are fostered by the Negroes themselves There are over 125,000 qualified Negro voters residing in Missouri Normally they are 125,000 Republican Voters.

They have the power to deliver this State in any election to the Republican or Democratic party. The Honorable Calvin Coolidge won the State from the Honorable John W. Davis in 1924 by a majority of 75,000 votes. Governor Baker won from Mr. Nelson by 5,000 votes. It may be easily seen that the situation warrants investigation.

"A careful analysis of the reasons behind the formation of these Democratic and Independent organizations reveals the following:

"The Negroes of the State are intensely dissatisfied because of the denial of patronage to them by the Republican administration. There are not more than a half dozen Negroes serving in all of the various Federal bureaus and departments, throughout the State. The postal Department, an exception, grudgingly employs a sizable number, but even they are denied promotion and advancement, though they have given faithful and efficient service over a period of many, many years. The various Police Boards, appointed by a Republican Governor, refuse to appoint Negro policemen to serve on the local force or promote those already on, no matter how efficient and able they may be. Negroes are conspicious, by their absence, on all the various Boards and in all the Federal, State and Local departments, Republican controlled.

"In cities and states where Negroes alternately support Democrated and Republican candidates, they enjoy a fair proportion of the patronage dispened by both parties. In every city and state where the Negro has any appreciable voting strength you will find large numbers of Negroes serving on the various Police forces, in every capacity and with ranks ranging from patrolman to Captain; you will find Negro assistant district attorneys serving in the District Courts; you will find Negro Assistant State Attorneys serving in the State Courts. You will find competent and able Negroes serving on the Civil Service Boards Workmen's Compensation Boards, Pub. Utilities Com. and on all other kinds of Boards and Commissions; you will find an appreciable number of Negroes serving in the various departments of the Post office, graded from messengers to supervisors; and you will find a proportionate number of Negro clerks quietly and efficiently serving in all the Federal, State and Local departments. These facts are being disseminated to the Negroes electorate; they are being driven home to the Negroes of Missouri with telling force and it is logically reasoned by an ever increasingly number of Negroes that if their continued support of the Republican party in Missouri gains them nothing, certainly they cannot suffer by changing their support to the Democratic and Independent candidates for office.

"I am reliably informed that Democratic chieftains who desire the Negro vote to swell their numbers, are quietly promising and guaranteeing that in reward for Negro suffrage and support, they will give the Negroes of Missouri more patronage than they have ever heretofore enjoyed.

"I am a Republican office holder and believe in the principles of the Republican party. I am anxious to see the party prevail at the polls next November, but I know that with the parties so equally balanced, it will be impossible for the Republicans to carry the State without the solid Negro vote. No longer is the Negro and illiterate ignorant voter blindly following Republican leadership; he has begun to find himself, to realize his political power and coldly analyses the merits and demerits of the respective party platforms and the advantages that are to accrue to him personally for the aid given to the party in the Republican ranks in 1928, something big and positive must be done immediately in order to restore and maintain Negro confidence in the Republican party. The Party must prove by deed that it is the ship and all else the sea:

Yours very truly,
John A. Davis.

Policemen and Firemen - 1928

New Jersey.

Eight Policewomen Fired at Seashore

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—The dismissal of eight colored policewomen has created a situation not relished by G. O. P. leaders of Atlantic County. Why all the colored policewomen were discharged while many of the white policewomen were retained is the question Negro citizens are asking Johnson and other local Republican managers.

There is a strong Smith sentiment among colored people in Atlantic City. This incident has helped to put the Republican leaders on the defensive in the present campaign.

They Held On To The Gun

Afro-American
9-1-28
Baltimore Md.

ATLANTIC CITY.—Constable Richards (holding the gun) and Constable Clayton, mobbed by Italians when they arrested one of their number charged with crime. They held on to their man and his double barrelled shot gun, altho beaten severely by the mob.

Policemen and Firemen - 1928

New York

Tiffany Watch Given Lieut. Williams At Testimonial Dinner

A group of friends tendered an elaborate testimonial dinner to Lieut. Wesley A. Williams, the first Negro to attain that rank in the New York City Fire Department, on Saturday evening, January 28, at the Lenox Lyceum Hall, 56 West 135th street, the affair being largely attended.

The commitee in charge of the affair was composed of J. M. Greene, A. Clayton Deming, Detective Sergeant Samuel J. Battles of the Police Department, P. A. Brown and C. L. Thorpe.

Sergt. Battles was the toastmaster, and the menu included shrimp cocktail celery olives, nuts, essence of chicken ,fried scallops with tartar sauce, filet mignon with mushrooms, rissolee potatoes, green peas, hearts of lettuce (Russian dressing), Roquefort cheese, toasted crackers, fancy ices, cakes, demi-tasse, cigars, cigarettes.

An interesting incident was the presentation to Lieut. Williams by the Red Caps of the Pennsylvania and Grand Central stations of a beautiful Tiffany watch and chain, with a small gold knife attached, valued at $350. The significance of this gift is enhanced by the fact Lieut. Williams' father, James H. Williams, is chief of the more than 500 Red Caps employed at the Grand Central station, and the boys were showing their loyalty to the "Chief", as well as admiration for the lieutenant, in the tribute.

Incidentally, it might be noted that during his many years of service, "Chief" Williams has aided many aspiring young men in securing college and professional educations by making places for them on his staff of Red Caps, so that they could earn enough to pay their ways through school.

Another pleasing tribute was the gift of a handsome clock by the committee, who stated, in making the presentation, that it was given so "he could always be on time."

Among those present were the following friends of Lieutenant Williams' father, Chief James H. Williams, head of the Red Caps at Grand Central station: Capt. Thompson, Captain Joseph Pinkney, Chief Louis Fisher, Captain C. B. Earl, Captain Theodore Freeman, Captain John Holder, Captain Louis Laurent, Messrs. Ernest Gregg, Harold Tibbs, Irving Jordon, William Chandler, Gordon White, J. S. Clark, James Randolph, Harvey Daisey, Bob Brooks, Joe Queenan, C. Ramsey, George Hilton, E. Smith and A. Stokes.

Others present were: Winifred Carr, George Lockett, James Nelson, Fred Figuradeau, Police Detective Sergeant Samuel J. Batle, Percy A. Brown, Charles L. Thorpe, Paul Moore, Le Stokes, Junius M. Gren, George W. Harris, Walter Hughes, William Holsey, Joseph ("Blondy") Brown, Benjamin F. Brown jr., John H. Brown, Alderman John C. Hawkins and Alderman Fred R. More.

HONORED BY FRIENDS

Lieut. WESLEY WILLIAMS
First Negro Officer of New York Fire Department, is guest of honor at Testimonial Dinner.

Detective Robinson Made Honorary Member of U. S. Detective Association

Fitzgerald Robinson, 254 West 135th St., has been made an honorary member of the United States Detective Ass'n, and is entitled to all rights and privileges of an Honorary member. John Russell, president; H. A. Matherwson, [illegible] Frederick N. Laurie, secretary.

Color Decides Police Promotions

Meritorious Work by Negroes of Sixteenth Precinct Ignored

It has been said that promotions in the Police Department depend not on what you merit but who you know. This seems to be the case, at least where the promotions of Negro officers are concerned.

This was seen in the recent promotion of Patrolman Eugene Mahoney, white, to the detective division following his assistance with a dangerous arrest of the Nest Club bandits from Youngstown, O. Patrolman John A. Johnson of the same station who is said, have taken the greater risk during the same arrest, was slated for promotion but never got it.

It appears, also, that he wasn't even next in line, for Patrolman John O'Hara, white, also of the same station, who has been on desk duty for about a year, was recently promoted to the detective division in the same police station.

The usual procedure, it is said, is to transfer a uniformed man to another station as soon as he gets the gold shield, on the theory that criminals have known him in uniform. Detective O'Hara is said to have served in uniform on post No. 4 for over three years before being assigned to clerical duty.

Detective Boyden Reduced to Ranks

Enright Appointee to Pound Pavements in Brooklyn

Detective William Boyden of the West 135th street station, said to be the first Negro to be appointed to the Detective Division, was reduced to the rank of patrolman Monday afternoon and sent to the Liberty avenue station, Brooklyn, to pound the pavements in uniform. The reduction carries with it a decrease in salary of $1,000 a year, it is said.

Boyden was promoted to the Detective Division by former Police Commissioner Enright and was assigned to the Commissioner's office in a confidential capacity. The demotion was made public Monday night at Police Headquarters.

Boyden is now on vacation leave. He was called to Headquarters yesterday.

The Reason

On Friday night Boyden and several other detectives and some friends, including one George Walton, were in 201 West 145th street. Boyden was in the front room while the other men were in another room playing a friendly game of cards.

Captain Zieg Keller, from Police Headquarters, walked in and approached Boyden and asked him to turn over his gun and shield. Boyden obeyed and was told to sit down. No one else was brought in for questioning, it is said.

Twice Boyden said, "Captain, may I speak with you?" The second time Captain Keller is said to have replied, roughly, "Sit down, before I smug (strike) you!" Finally Boyden arose and walked out. Captain Keller took Boyden's gun and shield to the Sixteenth Precinct and Boyden was called for questioning.

Captain Keller asked Boyden if George Walton owned the place in which the card game was being conducted, it is reported, and Boyden replied, "Walton does not own it."

It was reliably reported yesterday that, if Boyden had replied in the affirmative, he would not have been reduced in rank. Observers declare that this incident marks the beginning of an effort to railroad Negro detectives out of the Department.

Boyden was a first grade detective and rated as an acting sergeant. He is said to be the only one in the Department who is acquainted with all of Harlem's popular criminals. He has been very helpful in breaking in new men in the Detective Division and had won the highest respect and esteem from his fellow workers.

It was announced yesterday that a committee of Harlem citizens was being formed to present a protest to Commissioner Warren and to ask for an investigation of the affair.

Wesley Williams, Smoke Eater, Marks First Year as Fire Company Lieutenant

Only Negro Officer Directs White Company in Protecting Foreign Downtown District

Marking his first year as second in command of Engine Company 55, Lieut. Wesley Williams last week was in full charge of the firemen standing guard over the lives of thousands of whites in the downtown East Side section. With his captain, A. E. O'Connor, on vacation, Lieutenant Williams, one of four Negro firemen in New York and the only officer of his race, quietly passed his anniversary as Commissioner John J. Doran paid tribute to him.

Interviewed by a reporter for The Amsterdam News, the veteran of ten years of battling blazes modestly told of his rise from station porter and post office employee to a position unique in New York history. Of the prejudices and determined opposition he met in the early days he would say little, preferring to tell of the spirit of cordiality existing between him and the men in his platoon.

Began Work Early

Born in New York, the son of "Chief" Jim Williams, head of the Grand Central station "Red Caps," the fire fighter left school at an early age to work in the East Side tunnel. Finding that not to his liking, he took up the occupation of lugging bags, babies and sundry articles for passengers in the station under direction of his father.

With little future promised in his work, young Williams became a mail carrier, truck driver and finally, a clerk in the post office. Knowledge of driving came in handy later when he was made chauffeur for his fire-fighting company.

Taking the examination for fireman before becoming of age, Williams was placed on the eligible list and assigned to Engine Company 55, 363 Broome street. He is now thirty-one.

Commissioner Praises Him

Fire Commissioner Doran, under whose administration Williams was made lieutenant last September, was profuse in his praise of the "smoke eater" Saturday as he was asked to comment upon his work.

"Williams is a fine man, comes of a fine family, and is an excellent officer," the Commissioner stated. "His men like him and he stands well at Headquarters. He is in line for further promotion."

Had Many Close Calls

Lieut. Williams has had what he terms "close calls"; but, as he puts it, a fireman is unsportsmanlike if he talks about those things.

A well-developed body, hardened by constant phyiscal training, has stood good in his stead.

Williams, who is married, lives with his wife and three children at their home at 3529 Webster avenue, Woodlawn. He was married thirteen years ago to Miss Margaret Williams, a high-school graduate of New Rochelle. Their children are aged eleven, ten and eight. The youngest is a girl.

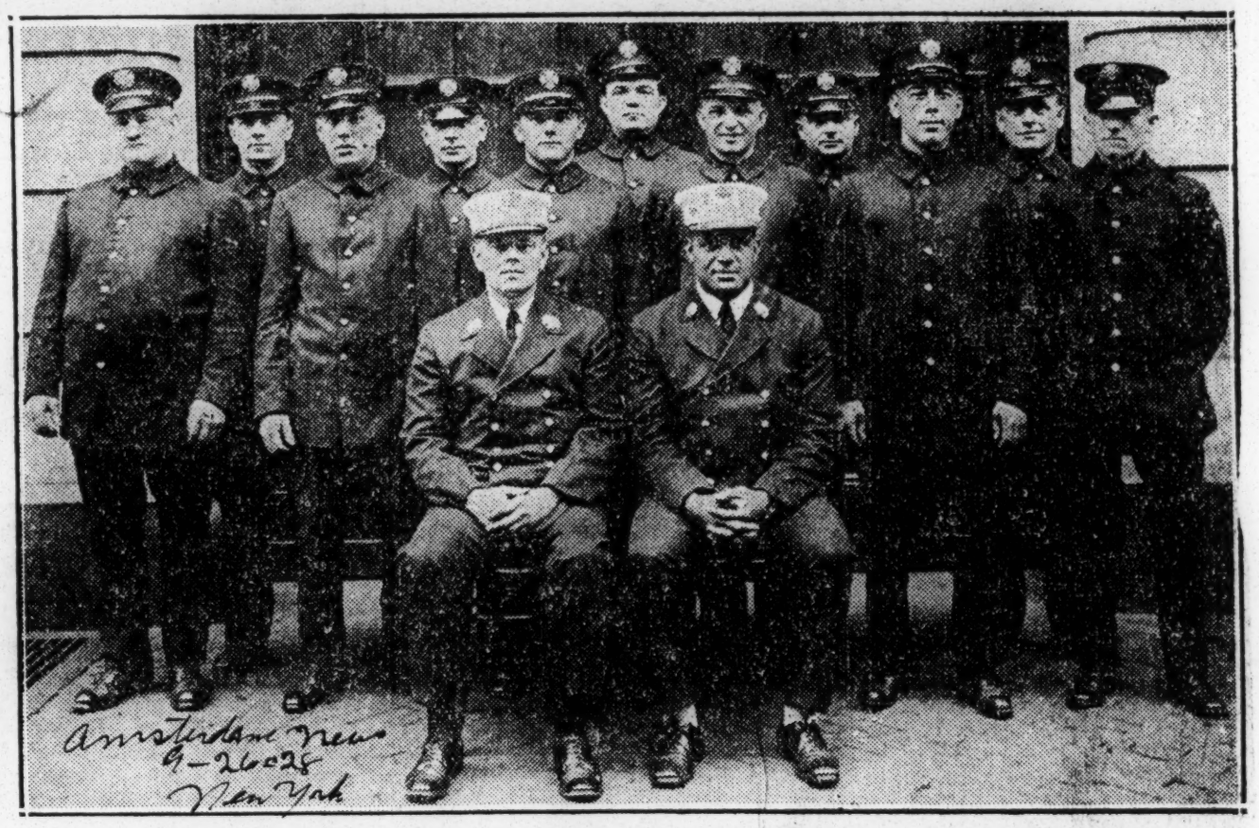
With retirement in eight ten years hence, when he will still be a young man—forty-one—Lieutenant Williams will not be idle. "I shall possibly return to the post office," he said.

Three Others in City

New York, with its quarter-million Negroes, has but three other firemen. That the cause may be laid entirely to discrimination is doubtful, as Commissioner Doran declared in speaking of those employed, "There is no difference." There are scores of Negroes in the Police Department, where the examinations are rigorous and where there is a greater opportunity for being in the public eye.

Engine Company 17 lists two Negroes, Arnold Joel and Edward Bantry. John Woodson is stationed with Engine Company 292.

Williams Praised by Fire Commissioner



FIRE LIEUTENANT WESLEY WILLIAMS (seated right), only Negro fireman in Manhattan and first to become an officer in the department, photographed with the captain and members of Engine Company No. 55, 363 Broome street.

N. Y. JOURNAL

SEP 13 1928

One of "The Finest"

A Negro Policeman Lives Up to the Reputation of the Department

Reuben Carter, a negro traffic officer, does other things than just blow his whistle and wave his arms.

While directing traffic at One Hundred and Forty-fifth street and Seventh avenue, Patrolman Carter heard shouts a block away and saw a bandit jump into an auto and speed down the avenue. The negro policeman hopped onto the running-board of a passing machine and gave chase.

Several blocks away Carter caught the holdup man and a hand-to-hand struggle followed. As the bandit reached for his gun, the officer pulled his own revolver and overpowered him. In the pocket of the thug was found a .45-calibre automatic.

It was a fine piece of police work.

Arraigned in Harlem Court, the prisoner was held without bail for the Grand Jury, and the Magistrate commended Patrolman Carter in open court.

This is the third spectacular capture Carter has made. Some time ago he engaged in a gun duel with a bandit who had held up a jewelry shop. During the battle the gunman was shot.

Recently he nabbed a holdup man who attempted to rob a store on West One Hundred and Forty-fifth street. Carter knocked the crook cold.

His capture of a fleeing bandit the other day makes his third daring arrest.

Bravery is a matter of heart, not of skin. No wonder New York has the best police department in the world. Color is no handicap in that body of brave men.

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Policemen and Firemen - 1928

North Carolina.

Concord, N. C., Times
Thursday, July 19, 1928

COLORED FIREMEN OF STATE TO MEET HERE NEXT MONTH

State Convention Here August 21st to 23rd.—Local Colored Firemen Seeking Funds For Expenses.

The annual state convention of colored firemen will be held in Concord August 21st to 23rd, inclusive. Colored members of the local fire department are new engaged in the preparation of a program.

The city of Concord, through a vote of the aldermen has given $250 toward the expenses of the convention. The colored firemen will solicit aid from Concord merchants to secure the remaining amount needed to cover the expenses fully.

Policemen and Firemen - 1928

Pennsylvania.

DARBY ELECTS COLORED MAN POLICE CHIEF

Sharon Hill, Pa.—M. Davis, was elected Chief of Police of Darby Township here recently due to the resignation of the former officer. He is the first race man to be elected under the present regime.

Pittsburg Buries Capto' Of 15 Germans

PITTSBURGH, Pa., (PNS.) — The burial of Rufus Pinckney, native Baltimorean, city policeman, was held Sunday at the funeral parlor of W. T. Poole.

He served with distinction during the World War with the Three Hundred and Seventy-Second Infantry in the American Expeditionary Forces. He was awarded a citation of bravery with a Croix de Guerre by the French Government for rescuing a French officer under machine gun fire and capturing 15 German soldiers, lone handed. He is said to have been gassed twice during the War.

During his service as a patrolman in the City of Pittsburgh Officer Pinckney had the distinction of having captured some of the most notorious bandits. The dead officer was a member of several fraternal organizations most of whom turned out at the funeral. It is said to have been one of the largest funerals ever held in Pittsburgh.

South Carolina.

Policemen and Firemen - 1928

Enquirer
York S.C.
JUL 20 1928

SEVEN NEGRO FIREMEN ADDED TO TOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

The volunteer fire department, of Yorkville was increased by seven new members, all negroes who were unanimously elected at a meeting following a big fish fry at Camp Wray last evening. They are Harry Wright, Paul Wright, Jim Gordon, Will Byers, Otis, Love, Rob White and Walter Blalock.

Chief Cartwright, who has been in the department 45 years, called the meeting to order and brought up several matters that needed attention. Another was the situation with reference to the telephone company. Central has orders not to give the location of a fire to anybody, and when firemen, and even the chief himself, is awakened by the siren and asks where the fire is, he is refused an answer. Captain Faulkner said he had taken the matter up with the Yorkville telephone manager, and the exchange here would be glad to give information to firemen, but telephone headquarters forbade it emphatically. It was decided that the mayor and council is to strenuously insist in this information service for firemen to the general offices of the Bell Telephone company.

Dr. Cartwright also expressed his pleasure that no longer, as of old does a new council proceed to disorganize the fire department for political reasons, saying that there was not the least interference from the present new administration of the city. Mayor Morton said the council would never interfere with the firemen and would set a precedent that the fire department is entirely divorced from politics. The mayor also promised the cooperation of the council in attempting an adjustment of the fire alarm to firemen condition.

Dr. Cartwright in the beginning stressed the honor due the Yorkville firemen for many years in the sacrifices they make without any pay to do their work with great efficiency and loyalty. He said it was a high honor to be as much help to one's fellow citizens as the firemen are, and no group of Yorkville citizens is doing more for the town than those who save its property from destruction, without hope of any reward but the good will of their townsmen.

Policemen and Firemen - 1928

Tennessee

PATROLMAN YORK PROMOTED.

The action of General Spence, commissioner of public safety, in promoting Patrolman Frank York to the detective force is one of the most popular promotions that has been made in connection with the system in many months. Mr. York is an efficient and straight-forward officer and during the many years that he has served as a member of the police force he has rendered service that has elicited praise from all with whom he had dealings. His addition to the force of detectives will serve to greatly increase the efficiency of that department in running down criminals.